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The following are claimed: (1) a combination of antibodies (Abs) consisting essentially of: (a) Abs specific for the V3 loop of HIV-1 gp120 , and (b) Abs specific for the CD4 binding site of HIV-1 gp120 which is capable of synergistically neutralising HIV-1 infectivity; (2) a combination of human monoclonal Abs (MAbs) comprising (a) human MAbs specific for the V3 loop of HIV-1 gp120 , and (b) human MAbs specific for the CD4 binding site of HIV-1 gp120 which is capable of synergistically neutralising HIV-1 infectivity; (3) a combination of Abs consisting essentially of: (a) human Mabs which competitively inhibit the binding of Abs produced by the cell line 1125H to gp120 , and (b) human MAbs which competitively inhibit the binding of Abs produced by the cell line 4117C to gp120 ; (4) a combination of human MAbs comprising: (a) human MAbs having the epitope specificity of Abs produced by the cell line 1125H, and (b) human MAbs having the epitope specificity of Abs produced by the cell line 4117C; (5) a cell line producing human MAbs specific for the V3 loop of HIB gp120 , which have the epitope specificity of those produced by cell line 4117C to gp120 ; (6) human MAbs produced by this cell line; (7) treating HIV infection by administering the above Ab combinations to an individual; (8) preventing HIV infection by administering the above Ab combinations to an individual.

USE/ADVANTAGE - The method relates to the synergistic combination of certain Abs specific for HIV gp120 for the treatment or prevention of HIV infection. The Abs have high affinity for the antigens. Also provided are screening methods, vaccines and assay kits. The Abs may be administered alone or in combination with other antiviral therapies, e.g., AZT or ddI in order to slow the progress of HIV-1 induced disease. The synergistic combination means that much less of the Abs is required to neutralise HIV. Passive admin. of the Abs may also be used to prevent HIV-1 infection in cases of acute exposure to HIV.

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